

Student Community Service Projects



Wawasee Community School's Milford School is making it happen!



Kehoe Kids show off the books they have purchased for Riley patients!

WE ARE a rural K-8 school with 620 students located in Kosciusko County in Milford, Indiana. Wawasee Community School Corporation has 3,163 students in five schools. Our poverty rate is 51% and seems to grow a little every year. There are over 90 lakes in our county, and we are the home of the largest natural lake in Indiana; Lake Wawasee.

OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES are the heart of our community. The parents and Milford residents are supportive of our school. Although we are mostly caucasian, we are proud of our Hispanic community that makes up almost 20% of our student body. We welcome several Amish families that have decided to send their children to our public school.

OUR TEACHERS Since we are K-8 we share staff that services both elementary and middle school students. We have 48 certified staff and 40 support staff (including bus drivers, cooks, custodians, paras, tech, office, ESL, library). Interesting enough, our staff is an equal mix of years of experience with almost 20% in each group 0-5 years, 6-10 years, etc. Several of our staff are home grown and graduates of Wawasee High School.

IN OUR OWN WORDS

"I'm excited because I can't wait to see the smiles on the kids' faces when we bring them the books." Josh Pattern - 4th Grade Kehoe Kid (Goshen News 2.13.16)

"I think Miss Diane would really like that we're doing this and be grateful." Darius Lewis - 4th Grade Kehoe Kid (WSBT 2.8.16)

"If we can just make one kid smile it will be worth it!" Chase McGillem - 4th Grade Kehoe Kid (Kehoe Kids Project Day 1 - 11.18.15)

For more information about our school or corporation, email: ckaiser@wawasee.k12.in.us or visit our website:

<http://www.wawasee.k12.in.us/education/components/layout/default.php?sectionid=6>

OUR PROMISING PRACTICE is a student-led community service project that focuses on providing books to patients at Riley Children's Hospital. The Kehoe Kids Project, named after a former teacher who lost her battle with cancer and donated her books to our school, has transitioned from a small book drive to a legacy project with a Kehoe Kart and Riley Red Wagon in place. The 4th grade group has created, cultured, embraced and are now empowering other students to care about this project, people and their community, not just in their building and school corporation, but neighboring corporations.

OUR STEPS The students started with a small goal of raising \$200 by selling homemade snacks before school. They met that goal in the first week. Slowly raising our goal, we invited past Riley patients, parents and staff into our classrooms to give them the real-world connection. The students have reached out into their community to raise close to \$3,000 at this point. The students are encompassing far more than their academic standards. They are creating a community that supports them academically and monetarily. The Kehoe Kids Project is self-sustaining in the students, staff and community.